

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 HA-05 /078 W
-----051614 141305Z /43

O 141150Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8926
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LUSEKA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 7343

BRUSSELS FOR US DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CG EAID EFIN PINS MOPS
SUBJECT: BRIEFING ON PARIS MEETING ON ZAIRE

REF: (A) LAGOS 7018 (NOTAL); (B) LAGOS 7044 (NOTAL);
(C) LAGOS 7182 (NOTAL); (D) STATE 148408

1. POINTS IN REFTEL D WERE MADE JUNE 13 (DAY ON WHICH
THEY WERE RECEIVED) TO MEA AFRICA DEPARTMENT DEPUTY
DIRECTOR VICTOR TAYLOR. MANY OF SAME POINTS HAD BEEN
COVERED IN PREVIOUS BRIEFINGS (REFTELS B AND C) AND
VICTOR TAYLOR REITERATED HIS SATISFACTION THAT US CONTINUED TO
LIMIT ITS ROLE TO THE IMMEDIATE CRISIS SITUATION IN
SHABA.

2. WHEN POLCOUNS REPORTED THE STRONG CONSENSUS AT
PARIS MEETING THAT AREA ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROGRAM TO
BE EFFECTIVE MUST BE TIED TO SUBSTANTIAL MEASURE OF
REFORM IN ALL AREAS RATHER THAN JUST ECONOMIC, TAYLOR
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EXPRESSED SATISFACTION. HE OPINED THAT CARE WOULD HAVE
TO BE TAKEN IN BROACHING THE SUBJECT OF REFORMS,
ESPECIALLY IN AREAS OTHER THAN ECONOMIC, WITH MOBUTU
BECAUSE OF HIS EXALTED OPINION OF HIMSELF.

3. ON THE SUBJECT OF DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO MEDIATE
BETWEEN ZAIRE AND ANGOLA, TAYLOR COULD GIVE NO FURTHER

INFORMATION ON NIGERIA'S INITIATIVE TO GET MOBUTU, NETO AND KAUNDA TOGETHER (REFTEL A) OTHER THAN TO SAY "WE HAVE FEELERS OUT." HE KNOWS OF NO OAU EFFORT IN THIS DIRECTION. ACCORDING TO TAYLOR, THE OAU SECRETARIAT IS BARELY FUNCTIONING. HE POINTED OUT, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THERE IS STILL NO PLANNING FOR THE JULY SUMMIT. NO AGENDA HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND MEA IS REDUCED TO PREPARING POSITION PAPERS ON ALL TOPICS THEY JUDGE LIKELY TO ARISE. HE FEELS SHABA WILL BE ONE OF THE SUBJECTS AND SEES LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THAT A MEDIATION EFFORT WILL BE FORTHCOMING. HE ALSO EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT ANY MEDIATION CAN SUCCEED AS LONG AS MOBUTU CONTINUES TO BE QUOTED IN THE PRESS AS THREATENING TO ARM AND TRAIN OPPONENTS OF THE MARXIST REGIME IN ANGOLA IN RETALIATION FOR AID ANGOLA GAVE TO SHABA REBELS LAST MONTH.

4. COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST TIME TAYLOR HAS EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH THE OAU SECRETARIAT IN CONVERSATIONS WITH EMBOFFS. THE NIGERIANS HAVE EXPRESSED IMPATIENCE WITH THE INACTIVITY OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE OAU GOOD OFFICES COMMITTEE, WHICH NIGERIA CHAIRS, AND HAVE TENDED TO FORGE AHEAD ON THEIR OWN IN MEDIATION ATTEMPTS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LAGOS07343
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780248-0513
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780658/aaaabxzh.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c86ae888-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LAGOS 7018, 78 LAGOS 7044, 78 LAGOS 7182, 78 STATE 148408
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2345798
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRIEFING ON PARIS MEETING ON ZAIRE
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, PINS, MOPS, CG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c86ae888-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014